

**REMARKS**

Applicants elect for further examination the claims of Group III, i.e., claims 16-22, drawn to a method of ameliorating loss of photoreceptor function in a vertebrate eye by administering a synthetic retinoid. Applicants make the election without traverse.

Additionally, the outstanding Official Action requires an election of species. Applicants elect, for purposes of further examination, the species (14) 11-cis-7-ring retinal. Claims 16-22 and 35-46 are readable on the species. If the species is allowable, Applicants reserve the right to further examination of one or more genus incorporating the species.

Applicants believe that the foregoing is fully responsive to the outstanding Official Action including the restriction and the election of species requirement. If, however, the Examiner believes that any further information or election is required, the Examiner is encouraged to contact applicants' attorney at the number provided below. Such informal communication will expedite examination and disposition of the case.

Respectfully submitted,

BUCHANAN INGERSOLL & ROONEY PC

Date: February 8, 2008

By:

  
Brian P. O'Shaughnessy  
Registration No. 32747

P.O. Box 1404  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1404  
703 836 6620